

Message Text

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41

ACTION NEA-12

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 EUR-25 ADP-00 CIAE-00 PM-07 H-02 INR-10

L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-03 RSC-01 PRS-01 SS-15 USIA-12

IO-12 AID-20 PC-04 SY-10 OPR-02 RSR-01 /161 W

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R 231330 Z MAY 73

FM AMEMBASSY SANAA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2175

INFO AMEMBASSY JIDDA

AMEMBASSY KUWAIT

/ AMEMBASSY LONDON 148

AMEMBASSY AMMAN

AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA

AMEMBASSY TEHRAN

CINCEUR

SECDEF WASHDC

C O N F I D E N T I A L SANAA 887

E. O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PINS, YE, YS

SUBJECT: TRIAL OF PDRY- SUPPORTED SUBVERSIVE NETWORK

CINCEUR FOR POLAD

SECDEF FOR ISA

REF: SANAA 748; SANAA 756

1. LOCAL PRESS ANNOUNCED MAY 20 THAT FIRST BATCH OF THIRTY- THREE MEMBERS OF SUBVERSIVE GROUP UNCOVERED MID- APRIL IN TAIZ (REFTELS) HAD BEEN TRIED. OF THIRTY- THREE, 25 WERE ACQUITTED OR RELEASED, 5 WERE SENTENCED TO THREE TO TEN YEARS AND 3 HAVE BEEN EXECUTED. FURTHER DETAILS IN MAY 22 PRESS, SUMMARIZING CONFESSIONS OF GUILTY STRESSES ACTS OF SABOTAGE (BOMB AND GRENADE EXPLOSIONN) AND LINKED THEM TO " OUTSIDE FORCES" WITHOUT SPECIFICALLY NAMING PDRY. REMAINDER
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OF GROUP WILL ALSO BE TRIED BY COURT AT UNSPECIFIED DATE.

2. INTERESTINGLY, MEMBERS OF GROUP WERE TRIED BY SHARIA (ISLAMIC) COURT, NOT BY MILITARY COURT, IN OPEN SESSION. PROMINENT MILITARY FIGURE, DEP CIC COL. IBRAHIM AL- HAMDI, WAS, HOWEVER, PRESENT AS OBSERVER AND PRESUMABLY PLAYED LEADING ROLE BEHIND SCENES. EFFECT, HOWEVER, IS TO STRESS LEGALITY AND DEMOCRACY OF YAR LEGAL PROCEDURES IN CONTRAST TO SPECIAL SECURITY PROCEDURES EMPLOYED BY PDRY.

3. IN APPARENT RESPONSE TO TRIALS, BORDER CLASHES INITIATED BY PDRY HAVE REPORTEDLY BEEN OCCURRING DAILY IN BAYDA AREA. ACCORDING TO PRIME MINISTER AND SAUDI AMBASSADOR MORE THAN TWENTY FIVE YAR SOLDIERS AND CIVILIANS, INCLUDING MILITARY COMMANDER, WERE KILLED MAY 21 IN BAYDA AREA. THIS FOLLOWS KILLING OF DEPUTY COMMANDER A FEW DAYS AGO. GENERAL EXPECTATION IS THAT ATTACKS WILL CONTINUE AT LEAST FOR DURATION OF TRIALS. CRAWFORD

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*** Current Handling Restrictions *** n/a

*** Current Classification *** CONFIDENTIAL

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: n/a
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 23 MAY 1973
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: golinofr
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1973SANAA00887
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: RR
Errors: n/a
Film Number: n/a
From: SANAA
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1973/newtext/t19730552/aaaajpvu.tel
Line Count: 81
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE
Office: ACTION NEA
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 73 SANAA 748, 73 SANAA 756
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: golinofr
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 07 AUG 2001
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <07-Aug-2001 by boyleja>; APPROVED <09-Jan-2002 by golinofr>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: <DBA CORRECTED> gwr 980227
Subject: TRIAL OF PDRY- SUPPORTED SUBVERSIVE NETWORK
TAGS: PINS, YE, YS
To: ADDIS ABABA
AMMAN
CINCEUR
JIDDA
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LONDON
NEA

SECSTATE WASHDC

TEHRAN

Type: TE

Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005